



Senator the Hon Jan McLucas
Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister
Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities and Carers

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Parliament House
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Mayor Genia McCaffery
Chair, National General Assembly
President, Australian Local Government Association
8 Geils Court
DEAKIN ACT 2600

11 OCT 2012

Dear Mayor McCaffery *Genia*

Thank you for your letter of 3 September 2012 to advise that the National General Assembly (NGA) of Local Government was held from 7–20 June 2012 and to seek a response from the Australian Government about the NGA's Resolution Number 62 regarding the Disability (Access to Premises- Buildings) Standards 2010.

The National Disability Strategy 2010-2020, endorsed by the Council of Australian Governments in February 2011, commits all Commonwealth Government agencies, their state and territory counterparts and local governments to ensure that people with disability live in accessible and well-designed communities with opportunities for full inclusion in social economic, sporting and cultural life.

Each tier of government is expected to express their commitment to the Strategy according to their jurisdictional and portfolio responsibilities. For example, the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs is working in partnership with local governments to implement the Accessible Communities Initiative. This initiative has provided sixty-seven local governments with matched infrastructure grants of up \$100 000 to improve disability access to the public facilities such as swimming pools, sporting facilities, community centres and playgrounds.

The Minister for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, Minister for Industry and Innovation, the Hon Greg Combet AM MP, has portfolio responsibility for Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards 2010 and is therefore best placed to respond to your specific request. I have referred your letter to Minister Combet to reply as appropriate.

Thank you again for writing.

Yours sincerely

Jan McLucas
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